## IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA ATLANTA DIVISION

ANGELICA IVANA MULDROW,	)
Plaintiffs,	) ) Civil Action No.
V.	) 1:22-cv-554-TCB
EZ E-FILE TAX PREPARERS, INC. and	) )
AJEENAH CRITTENDON,	) )
Defendants.	)

# AMENDED COMPLAINT AND PETITION FOR PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION

Angelica Ivana Muldrow hereby files this amended complaint and petition for preliminary injunction against EZ E-File Tax Preparers, Inc. (hereafter, "EZ E-File") and Ajeenah Crittendon (together, "Defendants"), as follows.

### **NATURE OF THE ACTION**

- 1. This is an action for fraud and damages related to the fraudulent filing of two Internal Revenue Service (hereafter, "IRS") Forms 1099-MISC.
- 2. This is also an action seeking injunctive and pre-judgment relief requiring the withdrawal of the Forms 1099-MISC.

#### **PARTIES**

- 3. Angelica Ivana Muldrow is an individual resident of the State of Georgia. Ms. Muldrow resides at 3748 Sycamore Bend, Decatur, DeKalb County, Georgia 30034. Ms. Muldrow is subject to the jurisdiction of this Court and may be served by serving the undersigned.
- 4. Ajeenah Crittendon is an individual resident of the State of California, and may be served at her residence at 1850 2nd Street, Livermore, Alameda County, California 94550 and/or at her place of business at 11501 Dublin Boulevard, Suite 200, Dublin, Alameda, California 94568.
- 5. EZ E-File Tax Preparers, Inc. is a foreign for profit corporation incorporated under the laws of the State of California and may be served by serving its registered agent Wanda Wade at 11501 Dublin Boulevard, Suite 200, Dublin, Alameda, California 94568.

## **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

6. Jurisdiction in this action is proper in this Court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1332(a)(1) as this is a diversity jurisdiction action and all of the plaintiffs are citizens of different states from all of the defendants, and the matter in controversy exceeds the sum or value of \$75,000.00, exclusive of interest and costs.

7. Venue in this action is proper in this Court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b)(2) because all, or substantially all, of the acts or omissions giving rise to the claims asserted herein occurred in this District.

#### FACTUAL BACKGROUND

- 8. In January of 2022, Ms. Crittendon caused her tax business, EZ E-file, to issue an IRS Form 1099-MISC to Ms. Muldrow alleging "other income" paid to Ms. Muldrow in the amount of \$320,660.00 (hereafter, the "First 1099-MISC"). A true and correct copy of the 1099-MISC is enclosed herewith as Exhibit A, but has been redacted to protect the Taxpayer Identification Numbers (hereafter, "TINs") of the Parties.
- 9. At some point later in 2022, following the filing of this action, Ms. Crittendon, herself filed a Form 1099-MISC alleging "other income" paid to Ms. Muldrow in the amount of \$29,470.00 (hereafter, the "Second 1099-MISC") (together with the First 1099-MISC, the "Forms 1099"). A true and correct copy of the Second 1099-MISC is enclosed herewith as Exhibit B, but has been redacted to protect the Taxpayer Identification Numbers (hereafter, "TINs") of the Parties.
- 10. Neither Defendant paid any sum of money, whatsoever, to Ms. Muldrow throughout the entirety of the 2021 tax year.

- 11. Defendants created and filed the Forms 1099 with the IRS for the sole purpose of harassing and injuring Ms. Muldrow.
- 12. The alleged, but plainly fraudulent, pretense which Defendants claim form the basis for the Forms 1099 is founded on the bizarre claim that Ms. Crittendon is entitled to payments of \$1,000.00 per hour for time spent in a legal dispute over the guardianship of Ms. Muldrow's mother (who also happens to be Ms. Crittendon's sister).
- 13. There is no lawful basis, whatsoever, for any portion of the alleged payments per the Forms 1099.
- 14. Defendants have not even raised a basis for the Forms 1099 that could be lawful.
- 15. Instead, on October 6, 2021, Ms. Crittendon expressly stated that the First 1099-MISC would be issued as a result of the Parties dispute over Ms. Muldrow's mother.
- 16. A Form 1099-MISC is a Federal Tax form, submitted to the IRS, and is paired with a Form 1120 or Form 1120S (in this case, depending upon whether EZ E-File is taxed as a C-Corporation or S-Corporation, respectively), and is therefore a sworn Federal document.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Ms. Crittendon is Ms. Muldrow's aunt.

- 17. The sworn averments made by Defendants are plainly untrue and the product of Defendants' punitive fraud.
- 18. Ms. Muldrow does not have an enormous amount of income and depends on her Federal and Georgia tax refunds for basic expenses.
- 19. The extraordinary tax debt that Ms. Muldrow would be crippling to Ms. Muldrow, creating a baseless combined (Federal and Georgia) tax liability of at least \$130,000.00.
- 20. Moreover, the mere filing of the Forms 1099 will likely result in difficulties with both the IRS and the Georgia Department of Revenue (hereafter, the "DOR"), which will render correction difficult to say the least.
- 21. As a result of the fraudulent Forms 1099, the IRS and/or DOR will levy Ms. Muldrow's 2021 tax refund.
- 22. Also as a result of the fraudulent Forms 1099, the IRS and DOR will assess income taxes against Ms. Muldrow in excess of \$130,000.00.
- 23. Allowing the Forms 1099 to go uncorrected will cause Ms. Muldrow to suffer irreparable harm.
- 24. Ordering Defendants to correct (to report \$0.00 amount of income paid) the Forms 1099 will not result in any harm to Defendants.

- 25. The greatest potential harm that Defendants could suffer would be that Defendants would not enjoy the tax benefits for the expense related to their fraudulent Forms 1099, which is not particularly damaging, as doing so would cause Defendants to criminally violate 18 U.S.C. § 287.
  - 26. Ms. Muldrow is certain to prevail on the merits against Defendants.
- 27. No element of this matter has any meaningful impact on the public interest, and therefore, granting the sought-after injunction will not disserve the public interest.
- 28. Ms. Muldrow now sues for damages against EZ E-File and Ms. Crittendon; and petitions this Court for a interlocutory preliminary injunction ordering Defendants requiring Defendants to correct the Forms 1099 to reflect \$0.00 of payments made to Ms. Muldrow and to file said corrected Forms 1099 with the IRS.

## COUNT I Fraud

- 29. Ms. Muldrow restates paragraphs 1-28 and incorporates said paragraphs herein by reference.
- 30. Defendants issued the Forms 1099 without any legal basis whatsoever for the purpose of punishing Ms. Muldrow.

- 31. This untrue filing violates 18 U.S.C. § 287 on its face and has damaged Ms. Muldrow by causing her tax liabilities to increase by at least \$130,000.00.
- 32. Defendants have benefitted from the untrue filings by being able to expense the \$320,660.00 and \$29,470.00 that was reported on the Forms 1099.
- 33. Defendants intentionally and knowingly made false statements to the IRS to the detriment of Ms. Muldrow.
- 34. Defendants' deception has also caused Ms. Muldrow to be without her tax refund.
  - 35. Defendants are liable to Ms. Muldrow for fraud.

# **COUNT II Preliminary Interlocutory Injunction**

- 36. Ms. Muldrow restates paragraphs 1-35 and incorporates said paragraphs herein by reference.
- 37. Defendants have issued a fraudulent Forms 1099 to Ms. Muldrow alleging other income in the amount of \$320,660.00 and \$29,470.00, none of which was ever paid by Defendants to Ms. Muldrow.
- 38. As a result of this, Ms. Muldrow will lose her tax refunds and will be liable for additional taxes of at least \$130,000.00.

- 39. The fraudulent Forms 1099 continues to cause Ms. Muldrow to suffer irreparable injury and harm.
- 40. Ordering Defendants to correct the Forms 1099 to a \$0.00 amount will not result in any harm to Defendants, and as such, the threatened injury outweighs the non-existent potential harm to Defendants.
- 41. The greatest potential harm that Defendants could suffer would be that Defendants would be forced to forego the potential fraudulent expense benefits from the Forms 1099, which amounts to helping Defendants avoid liability under 18 U.S.C. § 287.
- 42. Ms. Muldrow is certain to prevail on the merits against Defendants as there is no lawful basis whatsoever for the Forms 1099.
- 43. No element of this matter has any meaningful impact on the public interest, and therefore, granting the sought-after injunction will not disserve the public interest.
- 44. Ms. Muldrow now sues for damages against Defendants; and petitions this Court for a interlocutory preliminary injunction ordering Defendants to correct the Forms 1099 to reflect income paid by Defendants to Ms. Muldrow to \$0.00.
- 45. A preliminary interlocutory injunction, ordering Defendants to correct the Forms 1099 is proper.

# **COUNT III Attorneys' Fees**

- 46. Ms. Muldrow restates paragraphs 1-45 and incorporates said paragraphs herein by reference.
  - 47. Ms. Muldrow attempted to resolve this matter amicably.
  - 48. Defendants have repeatedly rebuffed Ms. Muldrow's ovations.
- 49. Ms. Muldrow made formal demands, to which Defendants have not responded.
  - 50. Defendants refused to resolve this matter reasonably.
  - 51. Defendants have been stubbornly litigious.
- 52. Ms. Muldrow is entitled to attorneys' fees and costs for having to bring and maintain this action.

#### **PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

WHEREFORE, Ms. Muldrow prays for judgment as requested above against Defendants and further requests:

- a. An award of damages as stated per this Complaint;
- b. Incidental and consequential damages;
- c. Punitive damages;
- d. Preliminary interlocutory injunctive relief;

- e. An award of attorneys' fees and costs in bringing and maintaining this action; and
  - f. Any other relief as this Court may deem just and reasonable.

### **DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL**

Ms. Muldrow requests a trial by jury on all issues so triable.

Respectfully submitted, this 22nd day of March, 2022.

FGP LAW, LLC

/s/ Frank G. Podesta
Frank G. Podesta
GA Bar No. 496530
fpodesta@fgplaw.com

555 Sun Valley Drive Suite N-3 Roswell, Georgia 30076 678.677.5143 (voice) 678.222.0123 (facsimile) Attorneys for Ms. Muldrow

# Exhibit A

C794 lof1 T66 B127 P2 ANGELICA MULDROW 3748 SYCAMORE BND DECATUR, GA 30034-4934

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COR	RECTED (if checked)		OMB No 1545-0115
PAYER'S name, street address, city or town, state or province, country, ZIP or foreign postal code, and telephone no EZ E-FILE TAX PREPARERS, INC.	1 Rents	2 Royalties  S  4 Federal income tax withheld	2021
	200 660 00		Form 1099-MISC
LIVERMORE, CA 94550 (925) 960-1450	\$ 320,660.00 5 Fishing boat proceeds	6 Medical and health care payments	Miscellaneous Information
	s	8 Substitute payments in lieu of	Сору В
PAYER'S TIN RECIPIENT'S TIN	7 Payer made direct sales totaling \$5,000 or more of consumer	dividends or interest	For Recipient
	products to recipient for resale	s	This is important tax information and is being
RECIPIENT'S name	9 Crop insurance proceeds	10 Gross proceeds paid to an attorney	furnished to the IRS. If you are required to file a return, a negligence penalty or
ANGELICA MULDROW	s	\$	other sanction may be imposed on you if this
3748 SYCAMORE BND DECATUR, GA 30034-4934	11 Fish purchased for resale	12 Section 409A deferrals	income is taxable and the IRS determines that it has not been reported.
1	S	\$	not been reported.
	13 Excess golden parachute payments	14 Nonqualified deferred compensation	
	s	\$	
Account number (see instructions) FATCA filing requirement	15 State tax withheld	16 State/Payer's state no.	17 State income
AUTOID - 1E7595	s		s
Form 1099-MISC (keep for your records)	www.irs.gov/Form1099MISC	Department of the Trea	sury - Internal Revenue Service

#### Instructions for Recipient - 1099-MISC (2021)

Recipient's taxpayer identification number (TIN). For your protection, this form may show only the last four digits of your social security number (SSN), individual taxpayer identification number (TIN), adoption taxpayer identification number (ATIN), or employer identification number (EIN). However, the payer has reported your complete TIN to the IRS.

Account number. May show an account or other unique number the payer assigned to

ACCOUNT NUMBER. May show an account or other unique number the payer assigned to distinguish your account. FATCA filing requirement. If the FATCA filing requirement box is checked, the payer is reporting on this Form 1099 to satisfy its account reporting requirement under chapter 4 of the Internal Revenue Code. You may also have a filing requirement. See the Instructions for Form 8938.

Internal Revenue Code. You may also have a filing requirement. See the Instructions for Form 838.

Amounts shown may be subject to self-employment (SE) tax. Individuals should see the Instructions for Schedule SE (Form 1040), Corporations, fiduciaries, or partnerships must report the amounts on the appropriate line of their tax returns.

Form 1099-MISC incorrect? If this form is incorrect or has been issued in error, contact the payer. If you cannot get this form corrected, attach an explanation to your tax return and report your information correctly.

You is a fixed to the second of the second s

Box 5. Shows the amount paid to a fishing boat crew member who is considered by the experator to be self-employed. Self-employed individuals must report this amount on Schedule C (Form 1040). See Pub. 334.

Box 6. For individuals, report on Schedule C (Form 1040).

Box 7. If checked, consumer products totaling 55 000 or more were sold to you for resale, on a buy-sell, a deposit-commission, or other basis. Generally, report any income from your sale of these products in Schedule C (Form 1040).

Box 8. Shows substitute payments in lieu of dividends or tax-exempt interest received by your broker on your behalf as a result of a loan of your securities. Report on the "Other income line of Schedule 1 (Form 1040).

Box 9. Shows gnoss proceeds paid to an attorney in connection with legal services. Report only the taxable part as income on your return.

Box 10. Shows the amount paid for the purchase of fish for resale from any person engaged in the trade or business of catching fish. See the instructions for your tax return for reporting this income.

Box 12. May show current year deferrals as a nonemployee under a nonqualified deferred compensation (NODC) plan that is subject to the requirements of section 409A plus any earnings on curent and prior year defensits.

Box 14. Shows income as a nonemployee under an NODC plan that does not meet the requirements of section 409A. Any amount included in box 12 that is currently taxable is also included in this box. Report this amount as income on your tax return. This income is also subject to a substantial additional tax to be reported on Form 1040, 1040-SR, or 1040-NR. See the instructions for your tax return. This income is also included in this box. Report this amount as income on your tax return. This income is also included in this box. Report this amount as income on your tax return. This income is also included in this box. Report this amount as income on your tax return. This income is also included in this box. Report this amount as income on your tax return. This in

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	s 320,660.		Form 1099-MISC
	5 Fishing boat proceeds	6 Medical and health care payments	Miscellaneous
	s	s	Information
PAYER'S TIN RECIPIENT'S TIN	7 Payer made direct sales totaling \$5,000 or more of consumer products to recipient for resale	8 Substitute payments in lieu of dividends or interest	Copy 2
ECCIPIENT'S name ANGELICA MULDROW 748 SYCAMORE BND ECATUR, GA 30034-4934	9 Crop insurance proceeds	10 Gross proceeds paid to an attorney	To be filed with
	s	s	recipient's state
	11 Fish purchased for resale	12 Section 409A deferrals	when require
	\$	s	1
	13 Excess golden parachute payments	14 Nonqualified deferred compensation	
	s	s	1
t number (see instructions) FATCA filing requirement	15 State tax withheld	16 State/Payer's state no.	17 State income
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# Exhibit B

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ANGELICA MULDROW
3748 SYCAMORE BND
DECATOR, GA 30034-4934

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RECIPIE	7 Payer made direct sales totaling \$5,000 or mires of consumer products to recipient for resale	6 Substitute payments in lieu of dividends or interest	Copy E For Recipien
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	11 Fish purchased for resale	12 Section 439A deferrals 5	
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#### Instructions for Recipient - 1099-MISC (2021)

Recipient is transpayer identification number (TIR). For your protection, this form may show only the fact from digits of your income security transfer (SSR), individual taxopyer identification number (TIR), adoption taxopyer identification counter (ATIR), or employer identification number. Assume the payer has reported your complete TIR to the IRS.

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Box 5. Shows the amount paid to a halving boat crew member who is considered by the operator to be self-employed. Self-employed individuals must report this amount on Schadule C (Form 1040). See Pile 334.

Box 6. For individuals, report on Schadule C (Form 1040).

Box 7. If sheeked consumer products littuing \$5,000 or more were sold to you for resalls, one a buy self, a deposit commission, or other basis. Generally, report any income from your sale of these products or Schadule C (Form 1040).

Box 8. Shows substitute payments in less of devidentity or tax-exempt interest received by your broken or your hands as a trail of a ban of your securities. Report on the "Other systems like of Schadule 1 (Form 1040).

Box 9. Report this amount on Schadule E (Form 1040).

Box 10. Shows goes proceeds paid to as aborring in connection with logal services. Report only this inside part is incorred to your return.

Box 11. Shows the amount on Schadule E (Form 1040).

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	13 Excess golden parachuta payments	14 Nonqualified deterrad compensation	
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